

Invention: Truck Bed Liner with Integrated Trunk Storage Compartment
Inventor: Brian Haack
Serial Number: 09/473,791
Page 2

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 6, line 20, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word -- side- - as follows:

FIGURE 5 depicts the inventive device wherein the divider panel
is created from the liner side [[Side]] wall.

On page 7, line 2, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word -- side-- as follows:

FIGURE 6 depicts a top view of the divider panel in its assembled
configuration as integrated from the liner side [[Side]] wall.

On page 8, line 2, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word --side-- as follows:

FIGURE 14 depicts another alternate embodiment in its assembled
configuration as formed from the liner bottom and side [[Side]] wall.

On page 8, line 5, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word -- side-- as follows:

FIGURE 15 depicts a top view of the alternate embodiment of Figure 14 in
which the liner bottom is used in conjunction with multiple living hinges to
form a truck storage compartment with the side [[Side]] wall.

✓
On page 8, line 11, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word - - side- - as follows:

255
5 FIGURE 16 depicts a rear view of the alternate embodiment in which the enclosure and divider panels are raised from the horizontal position prior to forming the trunk storage compartment with the liner side [[Side]] wall.

On page 8, line 13, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word - - side- - as follows:

256
10 FIGURE 17 depicts a top view of the divider panel with a living hinge within the liner bottom and liner side [[Side]] wall to create the sides of the trunk storage compartment with the enclosure panel being formed from the liner front wall.

✓
On page 8, line 16, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word - - side- - as follows:

257
15 Figure 18 depicts a rear view of the divider panel raised from the horizontal position from the liner bottom and the enclosure panel in the liner side [[Side]] wall being raised to form the trunk storage compartment.

On page 9, beginning at line 17 and continuing in that paragraph through its
20 end on page 10, line 5, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word - - side- - as follows:

The truck bed liner is molded to generally fit the contour of a truck bed, including wheel well shrouds 42. Liner bottom 40 is co-formed to liner front wall 34 at 48. Liner bottom 40 is coformed to liner side ~~[[Side]]~~ walls 36, 38 at 50 beginning at a point adjacent liner front wall 34 to a first

5 predetermined point on side ~~[[Side]]~~ walls 36, 38. At the first predetermined point is found living hinge 52. Living hinge 52 extends from liner side ~~[[Side]]~~ wall 36 to opposite liner side ~~[[Side]]~~ wall 38. Liner bottom 40 extends to the rear of a living hinge 52 to a second predetermined point 53. Between living hinge 52 and second predetermined point 53, liner bottom

10 40 is not attached to liner side ~~[[Side]]~~ walls 36, 38. At second predetermined point S3 is found free edge 54. Free edge 54 extends from liner side ~~[[Side]]~~ wall 36 to liner side wall 38. Along free edge 54 is optionally found horizontal protrusion 55 along its edge. Horizontal protrusion 55 provides strength to the divider. The perimeter formed by the

15 unattached portion of liner bottom 40 and living hinge 52 comprises divider panel 56.

On page 12, beginning at line 5 and continuing in that paragraph through its end at line 12, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word - - side- - as follows:

20 Figure 5 illustrates that divider panel 56 may also be molded or cut into the liner side ~~[[Side]]~~ walls 36, 38 of truck bed liner 20. In this

embodiment, divider panel 56 is formed into one wall, either liner side
[[Side]]wall 36 or liner side [[Side]]wall 38, which permits divider panel
56 to pivot about living hinge 52 on the vertical axis and then be secured
into place by a divider lock means 58 found on the opposite liner side wall
as illustrated in Figure 6. The disadvantage of this embodiment is that the
side [Side] wall surface available to mold or cut a divider may not be
sufficient to completely bridge liner bottom 40 between liner side wall 36
and liner side [Side] wall 38 of truck bed liner 20. To address this
problem, two divider panels, each of which is of a length equal to one-half
the length of the liner may be used. In this manner, the two divider panels
can join in the center of the bed to form a single divider panel.

On page 12, line 1, please delete the number "4" and insert the number - - 9
- - as follows:

FIGURE 9 [4], latch means 59 protrudes from each liner side wall 36, 39
near the lower aspect of each side wall.

On page 16, beginning at line 7 and continuing in that paragraph through its
end at line 8, please delete the word "Side" and insert the word - - side- . as
follows:

This alternate embodiment may also be accomplished using the same
inventive concept as illustrated in Figure 17 by providing liner bottom 40

511
with a divider panel 56 and a living hinge 52 and liner side [[Side]] wall 36
or liner side [[Side]] wall 38 with a side panel 98 to form the sides of the
truck storage compartment with enclosure panel 92 being located within
liner front wall 34.

5

On page 16, 'beginning at line 9, please insert the phase - - As illustrated in
Figure 18, yet another- - amend the paragraph as follows:

512 10
As illustrated in Figure 18, yet [[Yet]] another embodiment may also be
accomplished without liner side wall 36, 38 providing a side panel 98 (of
Figure 17). Instead, the side walls provide an enclosure panel 92 that has a
living hinge 52 located on liner side walls 36 or 38 to rotate from a vertical
position to a horizontal position for attachment to latch means 96 located
along front liner wall 34 with divider panel 56 being rotated to a vertical
position from its horizontal position within liner bottom 40.

15